

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 02621 182036Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 CU-06 /051 W
-----092362 191906Z /70

R 181854Z OCT 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6435
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL QUEBEC

UNCLAS TORONTO 2621

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, CA
SUBJECT: "OPTIONS" CONFERENCE CONTINUES DIALOGUE ON NATIONAL UNITY

1. THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO HOSTED AN"OPTIONS" CONFERENCE
TN THE FUTURE OF CANADIAN FEDERATION OCTOBER 14 AND 15,1977.
ATTRACTING MORE THAN 200 PARTICIPANTS FROM AROUND CANADA. ON
THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO CAMPUS AT THE SAME TIME, A CANADIAN
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' SYMPOSIUM "ALTERNATIVES CANADA", WAS ALSO
HELD ON THE NATIONAL UNITY THEME. WHILE BOTH CONFERENCES
RECEIVED FAIRLY COMPREHENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE, THE SUM RESULT
OF BOTH SEEMED TO BE THE CONTINUATION OF THE DIALOGUE ON
NATIONAL UNITY WITHOUT RESOLUTION TO ANY DEGREE OF WHAT THE
TERM "NATIONAL UNITY" SIGNIFIES.

2. IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL OCTOBER 17, THE TORONTO STAR HELD THAT
THE UNIVERSITY'S CONFERENCE UNDERLINED HOW READY
CANADIANS ARE TO MAKE CHANGES TO HOLD THEIR
COUNTRY TOGETHER. IN "DEFINING THE CANADA WE WANT",
THE STAR WROTE THAT THE MANY CONFERENCES ON NATIONAL UNITY
"PRODUCE A REPETITION OF THE SAME BELIEFS AND DIFFERENCES",
BUT BY THE INTEREST SHOWN IN THEM EVIDENCE THAT CANADIANS
"REALLY WANT A DIALOGUE ON HOW BEST TO SAVE THEIR COUNTRY."
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THE STAR IS CONVINCED THAT FROM THESE CONFERENCES A CLEAR IDEA
OF THE KIND OF SOCIETY CANADIANS WOULD LIKE WILL EMERGE,
LEADING TO EVENTUAL MOVEMENT "TOWARDS CONSENSUS AND REFORM".
THE STAR HELD HOWEVER THAT THE RIGHT KIND OF LEADERSHIP MUST
PROVIDE CONCILIATION AND COMPROMISE RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION
AND FROM THIS CANADA COULD EMERGE "A MUCH STRONGER AND
HAPPIER COUNTRY. IF IT DOES IT WILL BE BECAUSE SO MANY CANADIANS

HAVE TAKEN PART IN DETERMINING THEIR COUNTRY'S FUTURE."

3. COMMENT- THE CONFERENCE TRAIL ON NATIONAL UNITY IS MARKED IN TORONTO ALMOST WEEKLY BY MAJOR AND MINOR OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE MEETINGS ON THE SUBJECT. THUS FAR THE PRIME RESULTS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN IDENTIFICATION OF THE MANY PROBLEMS CONFRONTING CONFEDERATION AND INDICATIONS OF THE CONCESSIONS AND ATTITUDINAL CHANGES THAT WILL BE NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FOR THE AGREEMENT SOUGHT BY THE CONFEREES.
DIGGINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770384-0704
Format: TEL
From: TORONTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771046/aaaabmuu.tel
Line Count: 72
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 870645
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: \"OPTIONS\" CONFERENCE CONTINUES DIALOGUE ON NATIONAL UNITY
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, CA, TORONTO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c1f8a52c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009